March 29, 1932. E. B. HEARN 1,851,278

DRINKING FOUNTAIN FOR BABY CHICKS

Filed Sept. 15, 1930

Fig. 1

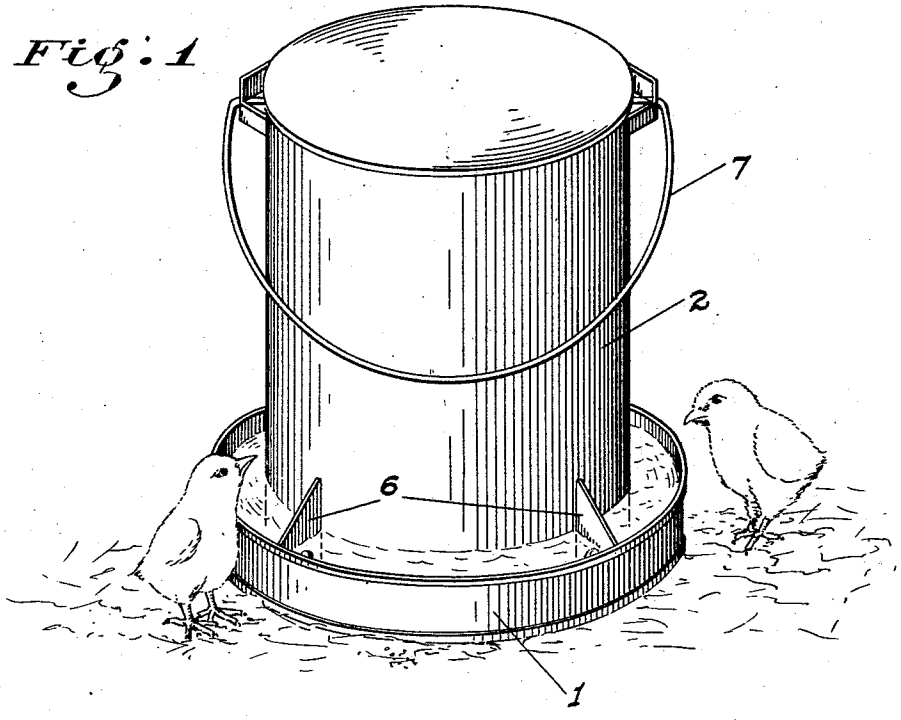
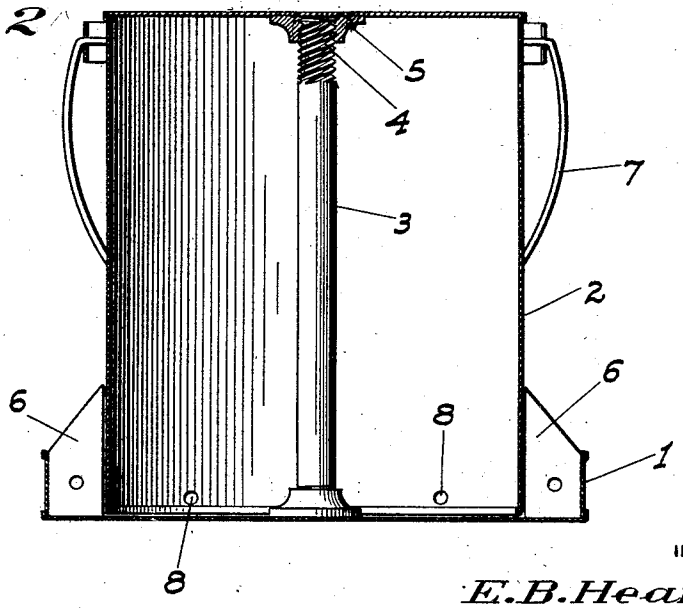


Fig. 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DRINKING FOUNTAIN FOR BABY CHICKS

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This invention relates to chicken drinking fountains for use where running water or water under pressure is not available, and a supply for the fountain sufficient to last a reasonable length of time must therefore be provided.

The principal objects of my invention are to provide a fountain of this general character which will be very convenient to transport, which may be readily and thoroughly cleaned, and can therefore easily be kept in a properly sanitary condition, which is light and durable and yet of substantial construction, and which while made of two initially separated normally removable and connected together parts, has nothing in the way of relatively complicated valves or catches to bind or rust or otherwise get out of order. My improved fountain therefore is ideal for use on the ordinary farm where the task of watering chicks is usually allotted to the women.

Another object is to provide a fountain of this character which will not overflow in use, which will not spill water when being manipulated, or allow the chicks to get into the water-trough area.

A further object of the invention is to produce a simple and inexpensive device, and yet one which will be exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects I accomplish by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claim.

In the drawings similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved fountain as in operation.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, the numeral 1 denotes the bottom pan or saucer which is of circular form, and 2 denotes the reservoir or bucket of the trough, also circular or cylindrical but of smaller diameter than the saucer. These parts are made of sheet metal of a non-rusting character so as to be light and sanitary. The bucket is arranged to be removably secured in connection with the saucer in inverted relation thereto in the following manner. Projecting upwardly from and rigidly secured to the saucer at its center or area is a post 3. This post has a triple lead thread at its upper end as at 4 to detachably screw into a tapped socket 5 which projects inwardly of the bucket from the bottom thereof at its center of area. This area enables the bucket to be removably but firmly associated with the saucer in inverted centralized relation thereto as is desirable, in order that a drinking area of even width throughout will be formed in the saucer outwardly of the bucket. The length of the post is substantially the same as the depth of the bucket so when it is mounted on the post the rim or lower edge of said bucket will lie closely against the bottom of the saucer, as shown in Fig. 2. The difference in diameter between the saucer and bucket is such as to provide a drinking area of convenient size and which is not wide enough to permit the chicks to actually step into the same. Also the depth of the saucer is insufficient to possibly permit the chicks, no matter how small, from being drowned should they by accident tend to fall into the drinking area.

In order to initially centralize the bucket relative to the saucer so as to facilitate the screwing of the bucket onto the post, a number of radial flanges 6 project inwardly from the sides of the saucer. These flanges project above the plane of the top of the saucer somewhat so as to engage the exterior of the bucket as the latter is moved into position, but before the threaded end of the post engages the socket.

To enable the device to be easily carried from place to place the bucket is provided with a bail 7 arranged to project above the top when in its operative inverted position. To enable the water to be maintained in the saucer to a predetermined level the bucket is provided with small openings 8 disposed at a height from its lower edge less than the height of the saucer. To connect the parts together with the bucket filled, the latter is allowed to rest on the ground in an upended

position, while the saucer is inverted relative thereto so that the post will depend into the bucket; the side flanges 6 of the saucer engaging the bucket and automatically centering the saucer relative to the bucket so that the post will engage the socket without any trials being necessary.

A quick spin to the right will be sufficient to cause the post to be tightened in the socket, when the device may be inverted to its sliding position. With such inverting movement, which takes but an infinitesimal time to perform, there is little or no danger of the water spilling out, since the water to get outside the bucket must either pass through the openings 8 or through the small crack formed between the rim of the bucket and the bottom of the saucer.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that I have produced such a device as will substantially fulfill the objects of the invention as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the device, still in practice such deviations from such detail may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and useful and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A chicken drinking fountain comprising a saucer, a water reservoir of lesser diameter than the saucer to depend into the saucer in inverted relation thereto, a post upstanding from the saucer and threaded on its upper end, and a tapped socket fixed in and projecting inwardly of the reservoir to engage the upper end of the post.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EDMUND B. HEARN.